

1. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle [having at least one sponson] comprising:

(i) a main hull for providing the primary buoyancy of the vehicle;

(ii) a sponson positioned on and mounted to each side of the main hull; and

(iii) fore and aft road wheels,

the sponsons being movable relative to the main hull and relative to said fore and aft wheels between (a) a stowed position where each sponson is adjacent to and located to one side of said main hull, and (b) a deployed position wherein each sponson is spaced from respective sides of said main hull and additional buoyancy providable by said sponsons provides additional stability to the main hull.

2. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 1 [wherein the said at least one sponson is movable between a stowed position and a deployed position] wherein said sponsons are stored in the region between said fore and aft wheels.

3. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [2 wherein the said at least one sponson is moveable with respect to a main hull of the said vehicle]] 1 wherein said fore and aft wheels are on the hull.

4. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [3 wherein the said at least sponson is] 1 wherein said sponsons are each spaced at least one hull width away from the said hull when in said deployed position.

5. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [3 wherein the said at least sponson is] 1 wherein said sponsons are substantially flush with the said hull when in said stowed position.

6. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [3 wherein the said at least sponson is] 1 wherein said sponsons are positioned substantially parallel with said main hull when in said stowed and

deployed positions.

7. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [3 wherein the said at least sponson is] 1 wherein each of said sponsons is mounted with respect to the said main hull by a linkage of pivoted arms.

8. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 7 wherein [the said at least one] each sponson comprises part of respective parallelogram linkages pivotally mounting said sponsons to said main hull.

9. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 7 wherein [the said at least one] each sponson is pivotally mounted with respect to the main hull about pivot axes inclined with respect to [the plane of the keel of the said hull] a longitudinal plane bisecting said hull such that the sponson is raised with respect to the ~~[[keel]]~~ hull when moved from its stowed to deployed position.

10. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 9 [wherein the said at least one sponson]] wherein each sponson moves in an aft direction with respect to the vehicle when moved from its stowed to deployed position.

11. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 1 [comprising a sponson on each side of the vehicle] wherein the road wheels are movable between a fully deployed position for road use and a stowed position for water borne operation, whereby the ride height of the vehicle on land can be adjusted by positioning the said wheels intermediate the said fully deployed and stowed positions.

12. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in [any preceding claim wherein said vehicle comprises fore and aft road wheels and said at least one sponson is stowed in the regions between the said fore and aft wheels] Claim 11 wherein the road wheels are pivotally mounted with respect to the main hull of the vehicle for movement between their said

respective stowed and deployed positions.

13. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 1 [wherein the vehicle comprises road wheels which are moveable between a fully deployed position for road use and a stowed position for water borne operation, whereby the ride height of the vehicle on land can be adjusted by positioning the said wheels intermediate the said fully deployed and stowed positions] wherein said vehicle is self-propelled on water and on land.

14. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [[13 wherein the said road wheels are pivotably mounted with respect to the main hull of the vehicle for movement between their said respective stowed and deployed positions]] 1 wherein said vehicle further comprises a deck on the hull for load carrying.

15. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [[1]] 14 wherein said vehicle is a passenger vehicle and further comprises a passenger cabin.

16. (Original) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the vehicle comprises a transom extension member for increasing the effective water line length of the vehicle by at least 5%.

17. (Original) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the transom extension member is movable between a deployed position substantially parallel with the water line of the said vehicle and a stowed position.

18. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 17 wherein the vehicle has fore and aft ends and the transom extension member stows substantially flat against the aft end of the vehicle.

19. (Original) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the hull comprises at least one propeller tunnel.

20. (Original) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 19

wherein the vehicle comprises a pair of propeller tunnels.

21. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 19 wherein the [[or each]] propeller tunnel has a depth dimension greater than half the diameter of the propeller with the respective tunnel.

22. (Currently amended) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim [[19]] 20 wherein the tunnels comprise at least two flow direction flaps pivotally mounted towards a downstream end thereof for directing output flow from the propeller in a determined direction.

Please enter newly presented claims 23-30:

23. (New) An amphibious vehicle comprising:

- (i) a main hull for providing the primary buoyancy of the vehicle;
 - and
 - (ii) a sponson positioned on and mounted to each side of the main hull,
- the sponsons being movable relative to the main hull between (a) a stowed position where each sponson is adjacent to said main hull and said main hull is between the sponsons; and (b) a deployed position wherein each sponson is spaced from said sides of said main hull and additional buoyancy providable by said sponsons provides additional stability to the main hull.

24. (New) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 23 wherein the amphibious vehicle further comprises a load carrying deck on the hull and wherein the sponsons are located beneath the deck in the stowed position.

25. (New) An amphibious vehicle according to claim 24 further comprising a passenger cabin on the deck.

26. (New) An amphibious vehicle according to claim 24 wherein the sponsons are deployed to a position out from beneath the deck in the deployed position.

27. (New) An amphibious vehicle having:

- (i) a main hull for providing the primary buoyancy of the vehicle;

(ii) a sponson positioned on and mounted to each side of the main hull; and

(iii) fore and aft road wheels,
the sponsons being movable relative to the main hull and relative to said fore and aft wheels between (a) a stowed position where the sponsons are stored in regions between said fore and aft wheels and where each sponson is adjacent to and located to one side of said main hull and said main hull is between the sponsons, and (b) a deployed position wherein each sponson is spaced from respective sides of said main hull and additional buoyancy providable by said sponsons provides additional stability to the main hull.

28. (New) An amphibious vehicle as claimed in Claim 27 wherein the amphibious vehicle further comprises a load carrying deck on the hull and wherein the sponsons are located beneath the deck in the stowed position.

29. (New) An amphibious vehicle according to claim 28 further comprising a passenger cabin on the deck.

30. (New) An amphibious vehicle according to claim 28 wherein the sponsons are deployed to a position out from beneath the deck in the deployed position.